## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kiyoshi TATSUHARA et al. :

Serial No. NEW : Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH

Filed March 15, 2004 : Attorney Docket No. 2004-0334A

METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR REGENERATING ADSORBENT

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus: (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed. 1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted: after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus: the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed. 2. It is hereby certified a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement b. [] was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement. Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or 3. [] abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference 4. is made to: a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,

- b. [] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
- c. [X] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page 2,
- d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
- e. [X] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference: WO 97/01388 (English abstract) -corresponds to JP 3272366
- 5. [] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kiyoshi TATSUHARA et al.

Nils E Padarga

Registration No. 33,145

Attorney for Applicants

NEP/krg Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 March 15, 2004

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)  Date Submitted to PTO: March 15, 2004				ATTY DOCKET NO. SERIAL NEW						
				APPLICANT Kiyoshi TATSUHARA et al.						
				FILING DATE March 15, 2004			GROUP			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS										
*EXAMINER				NAME CLASS			SUBCLASS FILING DATE IF			
INITIAL		NUMBER	DAIL	NAME		30801733		APPROP	APPROPRIATE	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS										
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY			TRANSLA YES	ATION NO		
	AJ	2000-167395	6/2000	JP				abstract		
	AK	2000-325495	11/2000	JP				abstract		
	AL	3272366	1/2002	JP				abstract		
	АМ	11-347364	12/1999	JP				abstract		
	AN									
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)										
	AO				<del>-</del>					
	AP									
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EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED							